

## Message Text

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ACTION STR-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03

LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02

SS-20 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 FEA-02

OMB-01 DRC-01 /192 W

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R 162241Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7147

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, EFTA, EC, UK

SUBJECT: EC/EFTA RULES OF ORIGIN

REF: STATE 7333

1. ON JANUARY 15, WE DELIVERED THE NOTE ON EC/EFTA RULES OF ORIGIN TO GILES FITZHERBERT, ASSISTANT HEAD, EUROPEAN INTEGRATION (EXTERNAL) DEPARTMENT, FCO. FITZHERBERT HAD NO SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT.

2. WE FOLLOWED UP WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY ON JANUARY 16 BY GIVING A COPY OF THE NOTE TO ROBIN ALLOTT, ASSISTANT SECRETARY RESPONSIBLE FOR GATT QUESTIONS. ALLOTT NOTED THAT THE US WAS REQUESTING CONSULTATIONS UNDER THE MORE GENERAL PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE XXII, AND NOT UNDER ARTICLE XXIII, WHICH INVOLVES A PRESUMPTION OF NULLIFICATION OR IMPAIRMENT. HE NEVERTHELESS EXPECTS THAT THE COMMUNITY WILL REACT DEFENSIVELY TO THIS FORMAL INITIATION OF GATT PROCEDURE, AND TAKE THE POSITION THAT THE RULES OF ORIGIN DO NOT HARM THE US.

3. THE UK WOULD HAVE PREFERRED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A GATT WORKING PARTY ON THIS ISSUE AND HAS BEEN PUSHING FOR THIS WITHIN THE EC. IN ORDER TO GET THE FRENCH TO AGREE, THE WORKING PARTY WOULD HAVE TO BE ESTABLISHED WITHOUT SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE EC-EFTA AGREEMENTS AND ITS MANDATE WOULD HAVE TO BE STRICTLY LIMITED, AT LEAST INITIALLY, TO FACT-FINDING. THE BRITISH BELIEVE THAT IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO CHANGE THE RULES OF ORIGIN IN VARIOUS WAYS THAT BENEFIT EC AND EFTA COUNTRIES AS WELL AS THE US, AND A GATT "FACT-FINDING" EXERCISE COULD RESULT IN PROPOSALS FOR SPECIFIC CHANGES OF THIS KIND.

4. ALLOTT DOES NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMMUNITY MIGHT SUGGEST SUCH A FACT-FINDING EXERCISE AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO ARTICLE XXII CONSULTATION. WITH ENOUGH REASSURANCE THAT THE US IS NOT TRYING TO UNDERMINE THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY'S TRADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE EFTA NON-APPLICANTS, THE FRENCH MIGHT NOW BE WILLING TO GO ALONG.

5. WE HAVE FORWARDED COPY OF OUR NOTE TO US  
MISSION GENEVA.

SOHM

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXPORTS, MEETINGS, TRADE AGREEMENTS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, TRADE ORGANIZATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 JAN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974LONDON00721  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** I  
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**From:** LONDON  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION STR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** STATE 7333  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 JUL 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19-Jul-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <11 APR 2002 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EC/EFTA RULES OF ORIGIN  
**TAGS:** ETRD, US, UK, GATT, EFTA, EC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005